



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

December 10, 2008

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **WW-0**

A2874-4

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Gail Farber
Director of Public Works

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gail Farber", is written over the printed name and title.

BOARD MOTION OF AUGUST 5, 2008, AGENDA ITEM 17 MONTHLY REPORT ON PROGRESS OF WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS

On August 5, 2008, your Board directed the Acting Director of the Department of Public Works (Public Works) to report monthly on the progress of the County's multidepartmental water conservation efforts. The following is the fourth monthly report that summarizes the progress of a collaborative effort to implement the water conservation and drought response actions approved by your Board on July 1, 2008.

Action No. 1 (100 percent complete)

Declare a Countywide Water Supply and Conservation Alert.

On August 5, 2008, your Board adopted a resolution declaring a Countywide Water Supply and Conservation Alert urging County residents, businesses, local water purveyors, and cities to intensify water conservation efforts. A letter was sent to all 88 cities in the Los Angeles County on October 20, 2008, to inform them of the Alert and request their support to intensify water conservation efforts.

Action No. 2 (100 percent complete pending adoption by your Board)

Update and adopt a water wasting ordinance for unincorporated County areas and the Waterworks Districts' Phased Water Conservation Plan.

A water wasting ordinance was approved by your Board on October 7, 2008. The ordinance establishes water conservation and waste prevention measures for unincorporated County areas. In addition, the Waterworks Districts' Phased Water Conservation Plan has been updated and is expected to be submitted for your Board's consideration on February 24, 2009, following notification of the Districts' customers in accordance with the requirements of Proposition 218.

Action No. 3 (60 percent complete)

Direct all County departments to evaluate water usage, immediately implement conservation measures to reduce consumption by a target amount of 10 percent by December 31, 2008, and report back to your Board with recommended measures to reduce consumption by an additional 10 percent.

The Internal Services Department (ISD), Public Works, and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) continue to gather water utility bill information and format data archiving and reporting features utilizing ISD's Enterprise Energy Management Information System to track the effectiveness of water conservation efforts at most County facilities. The Enterprise Energy Management Information System will facilitate reporting using water bill information from all County departments. Preliminary water savings results for 69 facilities (210 accounts), representing 75 percent of the total water consumption at ISD-managed facilities, indicate a 7 to 8 percent reduction in water use for July through September 2008 as compared to the same period in 2006. An initial report on water savings results for the first half of Fiscal Year 2008-09 is expected to be available in early 2009. Following the initial report, updated reports will be provided to your Board on a regular basis.

ISD commissioned a water savings study that focuses on water use for commercial building heating and cooling systems. Cooling water use constitutes a large portion of the water at these facilities. Substantial water savings can be achieved at many of these facilities by replacing older cooling water systems that require a continuous stream of water with newer systems that recirculate the cooling water. Cooling water recirculation systems have been tested at the Civic Center Heating and Refrigeration Plant and Peter J. Pitchess Honor Rancho Power Plant, two of the County's largest cooling-water-use facilities. Initial results from testing at these facilities indicate that water savings of approximately 15 percent (30 million gallons) can be achieved annually. Additional systems are scheduled for installation at other selected sites in early 2009.

The installation of cooling water recirculation systems currently represents the most economical and effective method to reduce water consumption at County facilities. As a result, ISD has requested \$500,000 in its Fiscal Year 2009-10 Energy Efficiency Projects budget request to install the systems at facilities throughout the County. In the event that the budget request is not approved, ISD plans to provide support to its customer departments to fund implementation of the systems as part of their routine or extraordinary building maintenance budgets.

At the September 23, 2008, quarterly meeting of Countywide departmental facility managers, representatives from the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California gave presentations on their available water conservation rebate and incentive programs. County facilities may be eligible to receive rebates of 50 to 100 percent of equipment costs for the installation of water-saving devices. Facility managers from DPR, Beaches and Harbors, ISD, Community Development Commission, and the Sheriff and Fire Departments attended the meeting and propose to actively purchase and install water-saving devices. ISD will work with these departments to compile a list of water conservation projects and estimate the water savings.

Action No. 4 (100 percent complete)

Send a five-signature letter to the Governor and leadership of the Legislature urging the State to expedite the award of bond funds from Propositions 84 and 1E to local agencies, including the County of Los Angeles.

A five-signature letter was sent to the Governor and leadership of the Legislature on July 7, 2008.

Action No. 5 (100 percent complete)

Send a five-signature letter to the Governor and leadership of the Legislature expressing support for the Governor's Delta Vision, which provides a comprehensive, sustainable management plan for the Delta that includes conveyance, expanded storage, ecosystem restoration, and conservation.

A five-signature letter was sent to the Governor and leadership of the Legislature on September 12, 2008.

Action No. 6 (80 percent complete)

Direct the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) through the Office of Recycled Water and the Energy and Environmental Policy Team in collaboration with ISD, Public Works, DPR, Fire, Sheriff, and other appropriate departments to develop a recycled, nonpotable water infrastructure plan for County facilities; the planning process to include consultation with appropriate water purveyors and waste water treatment agencies. The recycled water infrastructure plan should establish priorities based upon amount of potable water saved and include a funding analysis and recommendations.

The Recycled Water Infrastructure Implementation Committee continues to work on identifying the specific County facilities to include in each phase of the infrastructure plan and developing the cost estimates for each phase. The Committee is preparing the written report to be submitted to your Board describing the plan by the due date of December 31, 2008.

Action No. 7 (30 percent complete)

Direct the CEO, working with the Energy and Environmental Policy Team and with input from water conservation specialists to ensure utilization of Best Management Practices, including Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and Low Impact Development, to develop a water conservation policy applicable to retrofit, refurbishment, and new construction of County facilities and grounds.

The CEO, Public Works, DPR, and ISD are collaboratively preparing a checklist of Best Management Practices, including Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and Low Impact Development that will be used to ensure that appropriate water conservation practices are incorporated in projects for the retrofit, refurbishment, and new construction of County facilities and grounds.

Action No. 8 (100 percent complete)

Instruct the Acting Director of Public Works and the Director of Planning to consult with the various water agencies that provide water services to County unincorporated areas, and report back to your Board in 30 days requesting information on how the drought may impact the land development review process for both discretionary and ministerial applications, and what your Board can expect regarding future actions by water agencies on pending development projects in the unincorporated area.

Public Works and DPR sent a Drought Impact Questionnaire to unincorporated County area retail water purveyors requesting information on how the drought may impact the land development review process. A report summarizing the responses to the Questionnaire was completed on October 9, 2008, and sent to all Board offices.

Updates on these Action Items are also available on the Countywide Energy and Environmental website at <http://www.green.lacounty.gov>, which will be updated regularly.

Each Supervisor
December 10, 2008
Page 5

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call me or your staff may contact Adam Ariki at (626) 300-3300.

DWP:dv

C:\Documents and Settings\csmith\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\OLK258\A2874-4 (2).doc

Attach.

cc: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Chief Executive Office (William T Fujioka, Lari Sheehan)
Fire Department
Internal Services Department
Department of Beaches and Harbors
Department of Parks and Recreation
Department of Public Health
Department of Regional Planning